

M 411

There is about an inch or two of badly damaged tape on 411. (page 27 in the notes). I had only listened to the first half of the tape at home and so I didn't discover this until Thursday night at the tape group. Apparently the tape had a twist in it and when that passed under the head it mangled it very badly. We stopped the machine immediately and Charles and Johnny straightened it out but unfortunately that piece would not play back. The John Marshall had borrowed the tape the previous week and he said that he had noticed a twist in it also but that at the time when he listened to it the twist did not interfere with the play back at all. Charles has some ideas about how this could happen ... possibly a result of slack during rewind. He also suggests that for the longevity of the tapes it is necessary to clean the tape heads after ~~xxx~~ every ten hours of use; in this case I guess about every two weeks. Johnny said he could do this every other Thursday before the tape meeting if it is okay with you.

I feel so badly about the damaged tape, particularly because it is an original. I always handle the tapes with utmost care and it is so terribly distressing ~~that~~ something like this happened.

On the subject of tapes: Both Joan Halland and Helen Ford would like to borrow the Boston tape of January 10th which we listened to last Tuesday. I told them I would relay the requests to you. (I think Rhoda still has that tape anyway.) Also, Rhoda gave me the February Boston tape (the one we listened to on Wednesday night) which I have begun to transcribe without asking you first. I hope that is alright!

Terry